

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
ON  
TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2006

THE HEARING WILL BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M. AND WILL CONCLUDE  
WHEN THE LAST SPEAKER FINISHES TESTIMONY, OR AT 11:00 A.M.,  
WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST

ELEANOR SLATER HOSPITAL  
ARNOLD CONFERENCE CENTER  
REGAN BUILDING  
HOWARD AVENUE  
CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND 02920

This hearing will provide reasonable opportunity for all interested persons to submit data, views, or arguments, orally or in writing, on the following proposed changes in Medical Assistance policy resulting from the promulgation of rules required for conformance with the federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

Effective July 1, 2006:

1. All persons declaring United States citizenship who are applying for, or receiving, Medical Assistance (including Rite Care) will be required to document both their citizenship and identity. Medical Assistance may be denied for noncompliance with this regulation.
2. Changes will be made to Long Term Care applicants and recipients at recertification. Changes include:
  - The look back period for applicants and recipients is changed from thirty-six (36) months to sixty (60) months.
  - The transfer of assets penalty period start time is changed to: the transfer date or the date that the individual would have been otherwise eligible for Medicaid, whichever is later.
  - Eligibility is changed to allow for partial month eligibility.
  - The undue hardship policy section is changed to include further specifics.
  - The home exclusion is changed to have a maximum exclusion cap of home equity.
  - In determining eligibility for couples, the income is treated first, rather than the resources.
  - Annuities are required to have the state as a remainder beneficiary up to the amount of Medicaid paid on behalf of the recipient.
  - Notes and loans are now examined more closely under the resource test.
  - Life estate purchases of another's home require that the individual have lived in the home for one (1) year.

The Arnold Conference Center is accessible to individuals with disabilities. Persons requesting language interpreter services may call 462-2018 (Voice). Individuals with hearing impairments may request an interpreter's presence by calling 711 or Relay RI 1-800-745-6575 (Voice) and 1-800-745-5555 (TDD). For further information on special needs, call Susanne Costa at 462-2018 (Voice). These numbers are available Monday through Friday between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm. Requests for language interpreter services must be made at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the hearing date.

The seating capacity of the Arnold Conference Center will be enforced and therefore the number of persons participating in the hearing may be limited at any given time by the hearing officer, in order to comply with safety and fire codes.

Donald L. Carcieri  
Governor

Ronald A. Lebel  
Director